

Branford House  
Wyckoff and Lafayette Avenues  
Wyckoff, Bergen County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-391

HABS  
NJ  
2-WYCK  
4-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer  
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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Branford House  
Wyckoff and Lafayette Avenues  
Wyckoff, Bergen County, New Jersey

Owner: John E. Branford

Date of Erection: 1745-1775

Architect:

Builder: Earent Van Horn

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: House of three units built in  
progressive stage; two stories

Materials of Construction: Foundation - sandstone

Exterior walls - dressed  
coursed red sandstone,  
originally laid in clay

Interior walls - plaster  
filled in with mud and  
stone

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch

Historical Data:

This house consists of three units erected at different times. It is thought that Earent Van Horn was the builder. He moved to the vicinity of Wyckoff in 1742. On Erskine's Revolutionary map the house is marked Van Horn; therefore, it is reasonable to assume

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that the smallest unit was built in 1742 or later, and the largest and latest unit was built about the time of the Revolutionary War.

The property at one time was in the possession of the Ackerman family. It was sold by them and came into the possession of Robert Branford, the father of the present owner, in 1870.

Bibliography:

Bailey, R. P. Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York New York, The William Morrow and Company, 1936

Arthur E. Kutt  
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams  
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, A.I.A.  
District Officer

OW 8/28/37

A D D E N D U M

Barent Van Horn purchased from Mrs. Vallean the land upon which this house is built. Madalene Vallean was the daughter of William Franconier who originally had interest in a large tract of land in Bergen County. In 1742 Franconier conveyed his interest to Theodore Vallean and David Stout. They in turn in 1752 transferred to Madalene Vallean. That same year the proprietors discovered that Somman's conveyance of 1709 was invalid. Then in 1753 Madalene Vallean was induced to execute a release to the proprietors of her interest in the original grant of forty-two thousand acres upon receipt of a deed from the proprietors to nine hundred acres at Campgaw. It was from this nine hundred acres that Barent Van Horn received his land.

In the Extracts From American Newspapers there appears an item relating to a raid made upon Barent Van Horn, loyalist.

## Bibliography:

Harvey, C. B. Genealogical History of Hudson and Bergen Counties, New Jersey  
New York, Genealogical Publishing Company, 1900

Documents Relating to the Revolutionary History of the State of New Jersey  
Extracts From American Newspapers Volume I 1776-1777 Trenton, John L. Murphy, 1891  
(Being volume 1 Series II Archives of the State of New Jersey)

  
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Supervising Historian

*reviewed July 1938- JPD*